(iii) Setting up of separate Hand-loom Development Corporations in States with concentration of more than 1 lakh looms;

(iv) Creation of Thrift Funds Scheme with contribution from the wages of the weavers and from the employers;

(v) Shift in emphasis by the Corporations from production to marketing and availability of working capital to these Corpora- j tions at a concessional rate of interest;

(vi) Government and Public Sector enterprises should purchase their entire requirement of textiles to the extent which these can be met from the Handloom sector;

(vii) Reservation in handloom sector to be strictly enforced;

(viii) Banks to make provision for grant of loans for construction | of houses for weavers;

(ix) Term loans be given for the pur-chase of new looms/modernisa-: tion of existing looms;

(b) The current position regarding these recommendations are as follows :

(i) The National Handloom Development Corporation was set up ! by the Government;

(ii) At the National level a Standing Committee to review the flow of credit to the handloom sector | has been functioning which in-; eludes representatives of Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development. Similarly in 16 States, State level coordination Commitees have also been formed;

<iii) Separate Handloom Development Corporations are now functioning in most States;

(iv) A Thrift Fund Scheme is being implemented by the Central and State Governments.

<v) Handloom Development Corporation are actively involved the marketing of handloom products;

(vi) Central and many State Governments have issued directions for preferential purchases of handloom products;

(vii) The Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 is sub judice in the Supreme Court. A bill has been introduced in the current session of Parliament to Place the Hand-loom Reservation Act in the IX Schedule of the Constitution.

(viii) Workshed-cum-Housing scheme is being implemented by the Government of India;

(ix) Government is also implementing a scheme on modernisation /purchase of looms for which NABARD refinance is available.

United Bank of India officers organisation

3550. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a new Officers' organisation named as United Bank of India Officers Organisation has been formed at Calcutta;

(b) whether preferential posting of office bearers of the organisation have been made; and

(c) whether an accommodation for the organisation at Head Office has been given if not reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The United Bank of India Management advised that the President and the General Secretary of the organisation have been transferred strictly, in terms of the | seniority and bank's norms applicable to its officers.

(c) The bank has informed that it has slopped the practice of providing accommodation to the trade unions/associations at the Head Office building since 1982.